

Amendments to the Claims:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Canceled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strike through~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Applicant reserves the right to pursue any canceled claims at a later date.

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-14. (cancelled)

15. (currently amended) An inductive rotary transducer for transmitting data, comprising:

a fixed part;

a rotating part rotating about the fixed part;

a common virtual rotational axis shared by the rotating and fixed parts; and

an first and a second inductive element for bidirectional data transmission the data via at least one data transmission path, the data transmission path arranged outlying the common virtual rotational axis, wherein the first inductive element is configured to transmit data and the second inductive element is configured to receive data, and wherein the first inductive element is arranged adjacent to the second inductive element relative to the virtual rotational axis.

16. (previously presented) The inductive rotary transducer according to claim 15, further comprising a housing having a duct enclosing the virtual rotational axis.

17. (previously presented) The inductive rotary transducer according to claim 15, wherein the inductive element is a transformer comprising at least first and second coils assigned to the fixed respectively rotating part.

18. (currently amended) ~~¶~~The inductive rotary transducer according to claim 17, wherein the first coil is arranged adjacent to the second coil relative to the virtual rotational axis.

19. (previously presented) The inductive rotary transducer according to claim 17, wherein the first coil is arranged coaxially around the second coil.

20. (currently amended) The inductive rotary transducer according to claim 17, wherein the first or the second coil is a toroidal coil.

21. (previously presented) The inductive rotary transducer according to claim 17, wherein the first or the second coil is a planar coil.

22. (previously presented) The inductive rotary transducer according to claim 15, wherein the inductive element comprises a device for concentrating a magnetic field generated by the inductive element.

23.–25. (cancelled)

26. (previously presented) The inductive rotary transducer according to claim 23, further comprising a decoupling device arranged between the first and second inductive elements for separating a first magnetic field generated by the first inductive element from a second magnetic field generated by the second inductive element.

27. (previously presented) The inductive rotary transducer according to claim 15, wherein the inductive rotary transducer is configured to transmit data according to a bus protocol.

28. (previously presented) The inductive rotary transducer according to claim 27, wherein the bus protocol is a Fast Ethernet protocol.

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29. (previously presented) The inductive rotary transducer according to claim 15, wherein the inductive rotary transducer forms one integrated unit.